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Intelligence Information Cable

● ROUTINE
IN 688157

STATE/INR NMCC/MC (DIA) CIA/NMCC SWS NSA [REDACTED] NSC/S SDO NIO CRS

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CITE [REDACTED]

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DIST 17 SEPTEMBER 1975

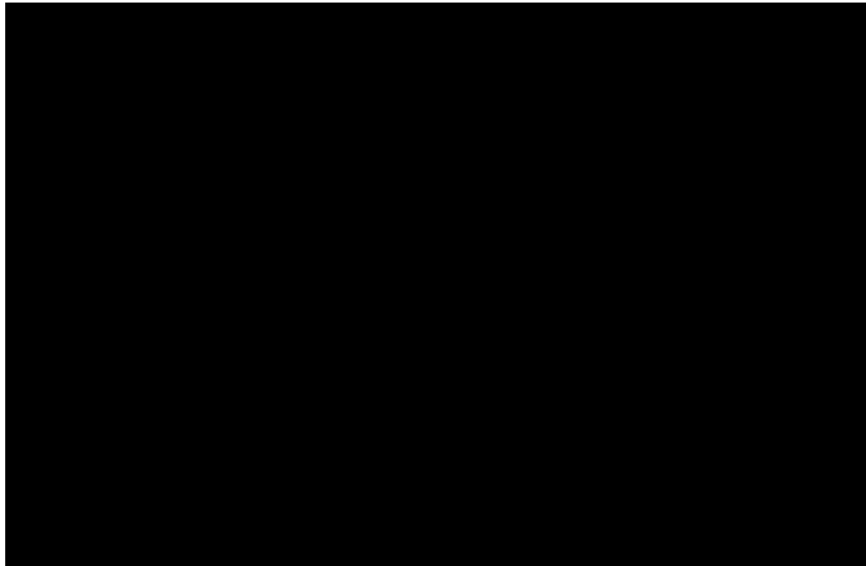
COUNTRY: TURKEY

DOI: MID-SEPTEMBER 1975

SUBJECT: REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY OPTIMISTIC
PREDICTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER 1975
PARTIAL SENATE ELECTIONS.

ACQ:

SOURCE:

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1. REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP)
OFFICIALS ARE COMPLETELY CONFIDENT THAT THEIR
PARTY WILL MAKE SIGNIFICANT GAINS IN THE OCTOBER

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1975 PARTIAL SENATE ELECTIONS. INFORMATION RECEIVED AT RPP HEADQUARTERS IN ANKARA FROM VARIOUS SOURCES SUCH AS INFORMAL POLLS AND REPORTS FROM JOURNALISTS HAVE CAUSED RPP OFFICIALS TO PREDICT THAT THEY WILL GAIN APPROXIMATELY 24 TO 30 SENATE SEATS OUT OF THE 54 BEING CONTESTED IN ADDITION TO THE EIGHT SEATS UP FOR ELECTION CURRENTLY HELD BY RPP MEMBERS WHICH THEY EXPECT TO RETAIN.

2. RPP LEADERS PREDICT THAT THEIR CANDIDATE FOR THE SINGLE CONTESTED SEAT IN ISTANBUL, BESIN U S T U N E L, WILL GAIN MORE VOTES THAN ALL OTHER CANDIDATES COMBINED AND THAT HE WILL EASILY DEFEAT JUSTICE PARTY (JP) CANDIDATE FAIK T U R U N. OPTIMISM SUCH AS THIS IS GENERALLY FELT ACROSS THE BOARD BY RPP OFFICIALS. THEY ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE NATIONOT GSALVATI S PARTY (NSP) WILL SUFFER CONSIDERABLE REVERSES DURING THE ELECTION, PARTICULARLY DUE TO THEIR BELIEF THAT THE POPULARITY OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NECMETTIN E R B A K A N HAS RECENTLY DECLINED.

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3. RPP CHAIRMAN BULENT E C E V I T
INTENDS TO CONTINUE PUBLICLY ATTACKING THE NATIONAL
FRONT GOVERNMENT DURING THE CAMPAIGN, PARTICULARLY
WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN POLICY AND CORRUPTION.
[REDACTED] IN SPITE OF WHAT ECEVIT HAS SAID
AND WILL SAY DURING THE CAMPAIGN, IT WOULD BE
IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE RPP TO TAKE TURKEY OUT OF
NATO AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
BECAUSE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE REST OF THE RPP WOULD
FOLLOW HIM. ECEVIT IS ATTACKING THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE HE
KNOWS THAT THIS IS WHAT THE PUBLIC WANTS TO HEAR.)



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4. [REDACTED] IF THE RPP DOES AS WELL
AS IT EXPECTS IN THE OCTOBER ELECTIONS THERE ARE
THREE ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO IT: A) THE RPP CAN
PUSH FOR A GENERAL PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION IN MAY
1976, B) THE RPP MIGHT OPT FOR AN RPP-DEMOCRATIC
PARTY (DP) COALITION, AND C) THE RPP MIGHT DECIDE
TO JOIN THE JP IN AN ELECTION COALITION GOVERNMENT IN
NOVEMBER 1975 FOR FIVE OR SIX MONTHS UNTIL GENERAL

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ELECTIONS CAN BE HELD.)

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5.

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